

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓ 1. **(Currently Amended)** An assembly comprising:  
a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and  
a support subassembly coupled to said trough element and adapted to be fixedly attached to an apparatus in a manner that causes said trough opening to generally face said apparatus at a distance from a nearest face of said apparatus that is greater than 0 inches.

✓ 2. **(Currently Amended)** The assembly of claim 1 where said support subassembly is adjustable to enable said trough opening to be at an adjustable distance from a plane containing a face of said apparatus.

*B1* ✓ 3. **(Currently Amended)** The assembly of claim 1 where said supports are adjustable to enable said trough opening to be at an adjustable angle relative to a plane containing a face of said apparatus.

✓ 4. **(Previously Amended)** The assembly of claim 1 where said apparatus is a frame to which equipment that contains electronic components, or optical components, or both (electronic/optical equipment) is attached, a rack to which electronic/optical equipment is attached or on which electronic/optical equipment is placed, or an electronic/optical equipment module.

✓ 5. **(Original)** The assembly of claim 1 further comprising one or more detent components that are physical extensions of said trough element.

✓ 6. **(Original)** The assembly of claim 1 further comprising detent elements associated with said trough opening.

✓ 7. **(Original)** The assembly of claim 6 where said detent elements include flexible components.

8. (Previously Amended) The assembly of claim 1 further comprising one or more detent elements that are coupled to said trough element.

9. (Previously Amended) The assembly of claim 1 wherein said trough element is constructed to be pliable.

10. (Previously Amended) The assembly of claim 1 wherein said trough element includes slots in sides of said trough element to enable said trough element to be bent in a plane containing a long axis of said trough element and perpendicular to said sides.

11. (Previously Amended) The assembly of claim 1 where said trough element includes slots in bottom of said trough element to enable said trough element to be bent in a plane containing a long axis of said trough element and perpendicular to said bottom.

12. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein said trough element has a cross section that is generally U-shaped.

13. (Currently Amended) An assembly comprising:  
a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and  
a support subassembly coupled to said trough element and adapted to be fixedly attached to an apparatus in a manner that causes said trough opening to generally face said apparatus while being removed from said apparatus a distance that allows a cable to be accessible while it exits said trough opening and is connected to said apparatus.

14. (New) The assembly of claim 13 where said distance is one that allows a cable from said apparatus to exit said trough opening and connect to said face of said apparatus with a curvature that is acceptable for said cable.

✓ 15. (New) An assembly comprising:

a trough element having a trough opening along a long dimension thereof and two ends perpendicular to said long dimension; and

a support subassembly adapted to be attached to an apparatus, and further adapted to be adjustably connected to said trough element.

✓ 16. (New) The assembly of claim 15 where the adjustability of the connection of said support assembly to said trough element permits connection of said trough element at different distances away from said apparatus.

✓ 17. (New) The assembly of claim 15 where the adjustability of the connection of said support assembly to said trough element permits connection of said trough element at an angle other than a direct facing of said trough opening a front plane of said apparatus.

✓ 18. (New) The assembly of claim 15 where said angle is adjustable.  
attached to an apparatus in a manner that causes said trough opening to generally face said apparatus at a distance from a nearest face of said apparatus that is greater than 0 inches.

✓ 19. (New) The assembly of claim 15 where said apparatus is a rack or a communication apparatus adapted to be installed in said rack.